

# 2013 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES LICENSING BOARD**

### **LICENSED ADDICTION COUNSELOR (LAC) LICENSURE PACKET**

This packet should contain the following information:

- 1.) **Eight (8) pages of instructions and information**
- 2.) **A ten (10) page application form**
- 3.) **A Verification of State Licensure Form**
- 4.) **Form C – Verification of Addiction Counselor Coursework**
- 5.) **Form P – Verification of Practicum**
- 6.) **Form E2 – Verification of Post-Graduate Experience**
- 7.) **Form S2 – Verification of Post-Graduate Supervision**
- 8.) **Form EE – Verification of Experience for Licensure**

If this packet does not include all of the above documents, please contact the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency at: (317) 234-2064 or email us at [pla5@pla.in.gov](mailto:pla5@pla.in.gov). **PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU CAN OBTAIN A COPY OF OUR STATUTES AND RULES ON OUR WEBSITE AT [www.in.gov/pla/social.htm](http://www.in.gov/pla/social.htm).**

### **INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION**

Before completing and submitting your application to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency, please read all instructions and information included with this packet. If you have any questions, please contact the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency at (317) 234-2064 or send an email to [pla5@pla.in.gov](mailto:pla5@pla.in.gov). For additional information, please visit our website at <http://www.pla.in.gov/>.

### **AGENCY ADDRESS**

Indiana Professional Licensing Agency  
Attn: Behavioral Health and Humans Services Licensing Board  
402 West Washington Street; Room W-072  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

### **THE FAIR INFORMATION PRACTICE ACT**

In compliance with IC § 4-1-6, this agency is notifying you that you must provide the requested information or your application will not be processed. You have the right to challenge, correct, or explain information maintained by this agency. **The information you provide will become public record.** Your examination scores and grade transcripts are confidential except in circumstances where their release is required by law, in which case you will be notified.

### **NAME CHANGE INFORMATION**

If your name differs from that on any of your submitted documentation, you must also submit an official affidavit indicating any legal name change or a notarized copy of a marriage certificate.

### **MANDATORY DISCLOSURE OF U.S. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Privacy Act of 1974, you are hereby given notice that disclosure of your U.S. Social Security number on this application is mandatory for the purpose of complying with IC § 25-1-5-8 and IC § 4-1-8-1 which provide that the Indiana Department of Revenue may obtain Social Security numbers from the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency for tax enforcement purposes. In addition, disclosing such number is mandatory in order for the Behavioral Health and Humans Services Licensing Board to comply with the requirements of the federal National Practitioner Data Bank and the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank 42 U.S.C. §1320(a)-7e(b), 5 USC §552a, 45 CFR Part 60.1, and 45 CFR Part 61.

**Failure to disclose your U.S. social security number will result in the denial of your application. Application fees are not refundable (outlined in 839 IAC 1-2-5(k)).**

## **LICENSED ADDICTION COUNSELOR (LAC)**

**\*\*ALL EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, SUPERVISION AND EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS MUST BE MET IN ORDER TO BE GRANTED LICENSURE IN INDIANA.**

**\*\*Licensure, certification or registration in another state does not guarantee licensure in Indiana.**

### **EXAMINATION/ENDORSEMENT**

The Board has adopted the International Examination for Alcohol & Drug Counselors (ADC) administered by International Credentialing (IC & RC) and the National Certified Addiction Counselor II (NCAC II) administered by the Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) . You may use current licensure/certification as an Addiction Counselor in another state to exempt yourself from the examination provided that you have already passed the ADC examination, NCAC II examination, or a comparable examination that also tested clinical skills and knowledge. You must also provide evidence that you have engaged in the practice of addiction counseling for not less than three (3) of the previous five (5) years to exempt yourself from the examination, provided that you have already passed the ADC examination, NCAC II examination, or a comparable examination that also tested clinical skills and knowledge.

PLEASE NOTE: If you did not take the ADC examination, NCAC II examination, or a comparable examination that also tested clinical skills and knowledge, to receive licensure/certification in the other state, you will be required to take and pass the ADC examination or NCAC II examination before you will be licensed as an addiction counselor in the State of Indiana.

If you are currently licensed or certified as an addiction counselor in another state and you will be applying for licensure in Indiana on the basis of that license, please continue to read all of these instructions. You will need to meet all education, experience and supervision requirements in order to gain licensure through exemption from examination (ENDORSMENT)

**Falsification of any of the information or documentation submitted to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency is grounds for permanent revocation of a license or permit issued pursuant to this application.**

**The requirements for the LAC licensure by examination or endorsement are as follows:**

### **APPLICATION**

Mail completed application along with all required documentation listed below to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency.

### **AFFIDAVIT**

**If you answer “Yes” to any of the seven (7) questions on the application, you must explain the positive response fully in a signed and notarized affidavit, meaning an explanation or statement of facts and or events, including all related details. Describe the event including location, date, and disposition. If you have had a malpractice judgment, provide the name of the plaintiff. Letters from attorneys or insurance companies will not be accepted in lieu of your statement, however they may accompany your affidavit.**

### **APPLICATION FEES**

Applicants must submit a fifty dollar (\$50) application/issuance fee made payable to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency. This fee may be submitted by cash, check or money order. **ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERABLE.**

## **PHOTOGRAPH**

Applicants must submit one (1) acceptable photograph, taken within one year of the submission of the application. The photograph should be approximately 2 x 3 inches, head and shoulders view of the applicant only, black and white or color, of professional quality. No "Polaroid" type photographs, laminated photographs, laminated identification cards or group photographs will be accepted.

## **VERIFICATION OF EDUCATION**

### **A. Degree and Coursework**

**Applicants must submit proof of a total of at least forty (40) semester hours or sixty (60) quarter hours of undergraduate coursework in addiction counseling that includes the following:**

**Possession of a baccalaureate degree in addiction counseling or in a related area, such as Addiction Studies, Chemical Dependency, Social Work, Psychology, Human Services, Human Development, Family Relations, or Counseling. In addition, applicants must have completed coursework in each of the following content areas:**

- 1.) Addictions theory**
- 2.) Psychoactive drugs**
- 3.) Addictions counseling skills**
- 4.) Theories of personality**
- 5.) Developmental psychology**
- 6.) Abnormal psychology**
- 7.) Treatment planning**
- 8.) Cultural competency**
- 9.) Ethics and professional development**
- 10.) Family education**

Complete the enclosed **FORM C – VERIFICATION OF CLINICAL ADDICTION COUNSELOR COURSEWORK** to report this information. This form must be completed and submitted with your other application materials. Delays in the application approval process are often the result of the Board's need to obtain more information from applicants regarding the specifics of individual course content. In order to ensure expediency in the application approval process, the Board suggests, but does not require, that applicants submit course catalog descriptions or course syllabi to accompany Form C.

**NOTE: Transcripts must be original, official transcripts sent directly from the university. Copies or incomplete (not yet showing your degree granted) transcripts are not acceptable.**

### **B. Supervised Clinical Experience**

**Applicants must submit proof of completion of at least one (1) supervised practicum, internship, or field experience in an addiction counseling setting that requires the applicant to provide at least three hundred fifty (350) hours of addiction counseling services. Applicants need to have received this experience under the supervision of an addiction counselor, clinical addiction counselor, mental health counselor, clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist, a physician with training in psychiatric medicine, a psychologist, clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric medicine or mental health nursing, another state-regulated addiction counseling professional or if the experience was gained in a state where no regulation exists by an addictions or behavioral health professional of equivalent status. In addition, this individual must have at least three (3) years of experience in providing addiction services. Complete the enclosed FORM P – VERIFICATION OF PRACTICUM FOR LICENSURE AS AN ADDICTION COUNSELOR (LAC) to report this information. These forms must be completed and submitted with your other application materials.**

**The bottom section of these forms must be completed by an appropriate authority at the institution of higher education in which the practicum, internship, or field experience was given academic credit.**

Applicants must submit an official transcript from any college or university from which you have:

- 1.) completed your baccalaureate degree,
- 2.) completed any supervised clinical experience requirements, and
- 3.) completed any additional undergraduate coursework

showing that all requirements for graduation have been met and the degree was granted. Academic credit for the practicum, internship or field experience must appear on the applicant's graduate transcript. No course intended primarily for practice in the administration and grading of appraisal or assessment instruments shall count towards these clinical semester hour requirements. This must be an original official transcript, a transcript becomes "VOID" if copied. If you have previously submitted a transcript to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency for a previously submitted application for licensure, this transcript cannot be accepted and a new transcript must be provided.

### **VERIFICATION OF POST-GRADUATE EXPERIENCE**

Applicants must submit proof of two (2) year of post degree supervised clinical experience completed in no less than twenty-one (21) months and no more than forty-eight (48) months.

Complete the enclosed **FORM E2 – VERIFICATION OF EXPERIENCE FOR LICENSURE AS AN ADDICTION COUNSELOR (LAC)** to report this information. This form must be completed and submitted with your other application materials. Your employer must fill out the bottom section of this form, **have the form notarized** and submit it directly to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency. This form may be duplicated as needed. Instructions for completion are found on **FORM E2**.

### **VERIFICATION OF POST-GRADUATE SUPERVISION**

Applicant must show proof of one hundred and fifty (150) hours of face to face supervision, with one hundred (100) hours under individual supervision and fifty (50) hours must be under group supervision, that was provided by a clinical addiction counselor, mental health counselor, clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist, a physician with training in psychiatric medicine, a psychologist, clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric medicine or mental health nursing, another state-regulated addiction counseling professional or if the experience was gained in a state where no regulation exists by an addictions or behavioral health professional of equivalent status. The supervisor must also have at least five (5) years of experience in providing addiction services.

Complete the enclosed **FORM S2 – VERIFICATION OF SUPERVISION FOR LICENSURE AS AN ADDICTION COUNSELOR (LAC)** to report this information. This form must be completed and submitted with your other application materials. Your supervisor must fill out the bottom section of this form, **have the form notarized**, and submit it directly to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency. This form may be duplicated as needed. Instructions for completion are found on **FORM S2**.

### **VERIFICATION OF LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION IN ANOTHER STATE**

Applicant must provide **VERIFICATION OF STATE LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION FORMS** from each state in which you are currently, or have ever been licensed, certified or registered to practice any regulated health profession or occupation. This form must be completed by the state licensing board in each state and returned directly to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency. This form may be duplicated. **You do not need to complete this form, if you only hold licensure or certification in the State of Indiana with the IPLA.**

### **VERIFICATION OF EXAMINATION & EXPERIENCE (ENDORSEMENT CANDIDATES ONLY)**

Applicants must contact the appropriate examination reporting service (for National examinations) or the State Licensing Board (for State constructed examinations) and request that an official score report be sent to the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency.

Any examination other than the ADC or NCAC II will be reviewed by the Board on an individual basis to determine equivalency.

Complete the enclosed **FORM EE – VERIFICATION OF EXPERIENCE FOR LICENSURE AS A LICENSED ADDICTION COUNSELOR**, to demonstrate proof of practice to qualify for exemption from examination. This form must be completed and submitted with your other application materials. This form may be duplicated as needed. Instructions for completion are found on **FORM EE**.

## **EXAMINATION CANDIDATES FOR LICENSED ADDICTION COUNSELOR**

An applicant who satisfies the educational and post degree supervised clinical requirements may be approved by the Board to take the ADC or the NCAC II. The applicant will select the examination they intend to take on the initial application. The application for the licensure examination must be approved by the Board prior to registration with the appropriate examination service. Once approval is granted, information will be e-mailed to each applicant explaining the registration process for the selected examination. It is your responsibility to register for and complete the examination. **An applicant who has been approved by the Board to take the examination must take the examination within one (1) year from the date of the initial Board approval. If the applicant has not taken the examination within one (1) year from the date of initial Board approval, the approval will be invalid and the applicant must submit a new application and all required documentation must be resubmitted. Applicants who have failed the examination and who wish to retake the examination must submit a repeat examination application, application fee, and other requirements determined by the Board. An applicant who has failed the initial examination and two subsequent examinations shall be disqualified from retaking the examination until the applicant personally appears before the Board.**

After completion of the examination, the results are forwarded to the Board within two to four weeks from the examination date and licenses will be issued promptly by the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency for passing candidates.

## **TESTING ACCOMMODATION REQUEST**

If you have a disability which may require some special accommodation in taking this examination, please request a Testing Accommodation Request Form from the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency by calling (317) 234-2064. If you are hearing or speech impaired, you may utilize the Indiana Relay System by calling 1-800-743-3333. If an accommodation is not requested prior to Board approval to take the examination, the Board cannot guarantee the availability of the accommodation on-site.

## **ENDORSEMENT CANDIDATES FOR LICENSED ADDICTION COUNSELOR**

### **Requirements for applicants by exemption from examination**

“Endorsement” is a term used to describe the process of granting a license to an applicant who possesses a license or certification to practice that profession in another state or country. Indiana’s addiction counseling licensure law requires all applicants who are applying for licensure as an addiction counselor by exemption from examination meet all of the foregoing requirements.

**If an applicant qualifies for licensure in Indiana by endorsement, he or she is only actually exempted from the examination requirement itself. The following requirements must be met in order to be approved for licensure through endorsement. Please refer to the appropriate section of the instructions for specifics on these requirements.**

### **1. EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE/SUPERVISION**

Endorsement applicants must meet all of Indiana’s education and supervised experience requirements for the licensure you are applying for.

### **2. EQUIVALENT EXAMINATION**

The examination that you took to gain licensure in another state must be substantially equivalent to the examination required for licensure in Indiana

### **3. CURRENT/ACTIVE LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION**

Endorsement applicants must be currently licensed or certified to practice in another state at the same level of licensure that you are applying for in Indiana. This license or certification must be current and in good standing.

### **4. YEARS OF PRACTICE**

Endorsement applicants must have been actively engaged in the practice of addiction counseling for not less than three (3) out of the previous five (5) years.

### **5. JURISPRUDENCE EXAMINATION**

Endorsement applicants are required to pass a written jurisprudence examination covering the Board's statute (Article 25-23.6), rule (Title 839) and the Professional Licensing Agency Standards of Practice (Chapter 9). These laws and rules are contained in this application packet. Once your application is approved by the Board, a jurisprudence exam will be mailed to your address on file. A score of seventy-five (75) or above on the examination is passing. **You will not be granted licensure in Indiana until you have successfully completed this examination.**

## **TEMPORARY PERMITS FOR LICENSED ADDICTION COUNSELORS (LAC)**

The Board may issue a temporary permit to practice as a licensed addiction counselor to an applicant who submits the following:

- 1) a completed application for licensure as an addiction counselor including the fifty dollar (\$50) application fee, appropriate photograph and all supporting documentation; and
- 2) an additional fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for the temporary permit.

### **The applicant must also:**

- 1) submit proof of a valid license/certificate to practice from another state. A copy of a current license/certificate will constitute proof of licensure/certification for temporary permit issuance only. Verification of the licensure/certification status must still be received directly from the other state's Board; **OR**
- 2) have been practicing in a state that does not license or certify addiction counselors, but is certified by a national association approved by the board. Verification of current certification must be received directly from the certifying national association. (Indiana does license addiction counselors so you must have been practicing in another state that does not license or certify addiction counselors.); **OR**
- 3) have been approved by the Board to take the examination.

### **A temporary permit expires the earlier of:**

- 1) the date the individual holding the permit is issued a license;
- 2.) the date the Board disapproves the individual's application for licensure. (Disapproval of applications includes failing the required examination.);
- 3.) One hundred eighty (180) days from the date the permit is issued.

The Board may renew a temporary permit if the individual holding the permit was scheduled to take the next examination and the individual did not take the examination and shows good cause for not taking the examination. "Good cause" is defined in the Board's statutes at IC 25-23.6-8.5-10, as follows, "good cause" means any reason approved by the board following written notice to the board from the applicant within thirty (30) days of the date the applicant was scheduled to take the examination. A renewed permit expires on the date the individual holding the permit receives the results from the next examination given after the permit was issued.

**Please not that if an applicant fails the examination, they may not apply for any further temporary permits.**

### **APPLICATION/FORMS CHECKLIST FOR EXAMINATION CANDIDATES**

**If you are applying for licensure as an addiction counselor (LAC) by examination, you must complete and submit the following forms.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Four (4) page application form
- \_\_\_\_\_ One (1) photograph
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Application/Issuance Fee
- \_\_\_\_\_ Official Transcript(s)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Form C – Verification of Addiction Counselor Coursework
- \_\_\_\_\_ Form P – Verification of Practicum for Licensure as an Addiction Counselor
- \_\_\_\_\_ Form E2 – Verification of Experience
- \_\_\_\_\_ Form S2 – Verification of Supervision

### **APPLICATION/FORMS CHECKLIST FOR ENDORSEMENT CANDIDATES**

**If you are applying for licensure as an addiction counselor (LAC) by endorsement, you must complete and submit the following forms.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Four (4) page application form
- \_\_\_\_\_ One (1) photograph
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Application/Issuance Fee
- \_\_\_\_\_ Official Transcript(s)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Form C – Verification of Addiction Counselor Coursework
- \_\_\_\_\_ Form P – Verification of Practicum for Licensure as an Addiction Counselor
- \_\_\_\_\_ Form E2 – Verification of Experience
- \_\_\_\_\_ Form S2 – Verification of Supervision
- \_\_\_\_\_ Form EE – Verification of Experience
- \_\_\_\_\_ Verification of State Licensure Form
- \_\_\_\_\_ ADC/NCAC II/Equivalent Score Report